Senate Committee Musical Chairs

October 17, 2018

[Plurus Strategies]

Кеу

Retiring	
Committee Seniority over Sitting Chair/Ranking Member	
Viewed as Seat Republicans Will Most Likely Retain	
Viewed as Potentially At Risk Republican Seat	
Viewed as Republican Seat at Risk	
Viewed as Seat Democrats Will Most Likely Retain	
Viewed as Potentially At Risk Democratic Seat	
Viewed as Democratic Seat at Risk	

- The Senate Republican leader is not term-limited; Senator Mitch McConnell (R-KY) will likely remain majority leader. The only member of Senate GOP leadership who is currently term-limited is Republican Whip John Cornyn (R-TX).
- Republicans have term limits of six years as chairman and six years as ranking member. Republican members can only use seniority to bump sitting chairs/ranking members when the control of the Senate switches parties.
- Committee leadership for the Senate Aging; Agriculture; Appropriations; Banking; Environment and Public Works (EPW); Health Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP); Indian Affairs; Intelligence; Rules; and Veterans Affairs Committees are unlikely to change.

- Following the death of Senator John McCain (R-AZ), Senator James Inhofe (R-OK) assumed the chairmanship of the Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC). He is likely to remain the top SASC Republican in the next Congress. Arizona Governor Doug Ducey has appointed former Senator Jon Kyl (R-AZ) to fill Senator McCain's seat. He has assumed all of Senator McCain's committee assignments.
- In the unlikely scenario that Senator Chuck Grassley (R-IA) does not take over the Finance Committee, Senator Mike Crapo (R-ID), who currently serves as Chairman of the Banking Committee, could take over the Finance Committee. If he does that, Senator Pat Toomey (R-PA) could assume Republican leadership of the Banking Committee.
- On the Republican side of the Commerce Committee, there is a rumor circulating that Senator John Thune (R-SD) will take Senator Cornyn's leadership position; if he does that, Senator Roger Wicker (R-MS) would assume Republican leadership of the committee. If Senator Bill Nelson (D-FL) loses his re-election campaign, Senator Maria Cantwell (D-WA) would likely opt to serve as top Democrat on the Commerce Committee.



- If Republicans lose control of the Senate, Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) would lose her top stop on the Energy and Natural Resources (ENR) Committee because she already has six years as ranking member. Republican leadership of the committee would likely then go to Senator John Barrasso (R-WY). If Senator Cantwell moves to the top spot on the Commerce Committee, Senator Bernie Sanders (I-VT), could assume Democratic leadership of the ENR Committee. If Senator Sanders becomes ENR Ranking Member, because of other committee leadership positions held by more senior members of the Budget Committee, Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) could assume Democratic leadership of the Budget Committee.
- If Republicans lose control of the Senate and Senator Barrasso assumes Republican leadership of the ENR Committee, then Republican leadership of the EPW Committee would go to Senator Shelly Moore Capito (R-WV) because Senator Inhofe is already term limited as both chair and ranking member of the committee.

- With Senator Orrin Hatch's (R-UT) retirement, Republican leadership of the Finance Committee will change. Senator Grassley will likely leave his Judiciary Committee chairmanship to assume Finance. He is term limited in the ranking member position, but has two remaining years to serve as chair of the committee. If he does not, Senator Crapo could become chairman of Finance.
- With Senator Bob Corker's (R-TN) retirement, Republican leadership of the Foreign Relations Committee (SFRC) will change. It is likely to go to Senator James Risch (R-ID). If it does, Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL) will likely assume Republican leadership of Small Business. If Senator Robert Menendez (D-NJ) loses his re-election, Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD) could become Democratic leader of the committee. If that happens, Democratic leadership of Small Business could go to Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH).

- If Senator Claire McCaskill (D-MO) loses her re-election, Senators Tom Carper (D-DE), Heidi Heitkamp (D-ND), or Gary Peters (D-MI) could become Democratic leader of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee (HSGAC). If Senator Carper opts to lead his Democratic colleagues on HSGAC, Senator Cardin could become Democratic leader of EPW. More likely, Senator Heitkamp would become Democratic leader of HSGAC, unless she loses her re-election, at which point it would go to Senator Peters.
- Assuming Senator Grassley claims his last two years as chair of Finance, Republican leadership of Judiciary will go to Senator Lindsey Graham (R-SC).
- Senator Jon Tester (D-MT) is likely to remain Democratic leader of Veterans' Affairs unless he reclaims Indian Affairs. If he does that, Democratic leadership of Veterans' Affairs would fall to Senator Richard Blumenthal (D-CT), given other members' committee leadership elsewhere.
- Current projections from Real Clear Politics, Cook Political Report, and Sabato's Crystal Ball at the end of this document.



Aging

Susan Collins (R-ME), Chairman	Robert Casey (D-PA), Ranking Member
Orrin Hatch (R-UT)	Bill Nelson (D-FL) (Commerce)
Jeff Flake (R-AZ)	Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY)
Tim Scott (R-SC)	Richard Blumenthal (D-CT)
Thom Tillis (R-NC)	Joe Donnelly (D-IN)
Bob Corker (R-TN)	Elizabeth Warren (D-MA)
Richard Burr (R-NC)	Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NV)
Marco Rubio (R-FL)	Doug Jones (D-AL)
Deb Fischer (R-NE)	

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

Pat Roberts (R-KS), Chairman	Debbie Stabenow (D-MI), Ranking Member
Mitch McConnell (R-KY) (Leadership)	Patrick Leahy (D-VT) (Appropriations)
John Boozman (R-AR)	Sherrod Brown (D-OH)
John Hoeven (R-ND)	Amy Klobuchar (D-MN)
Joni Ernst (R-IA)	Michael Bennet (D-CO)
Chuck Grassley (R-IA)	Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY)
John Thune (R-SD)	Joe Donnelly (D-IN)
Steve Daines (R-MT)	Heidi Heitkamp (D-ND)
David Perdue (R-GA)	Robert Casey (D-PA)
Deb Fischer (R-NE)	Tina Smith (D-MN)
Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MS)	

Appropriations

Richard Shelby (R-AL), Chairman	Patrick Leahy (D-VT), Vice Chairman
Mitch McConnell (R-KY) (Leadership)	Patty Murray (D-WA)
Lamar Alexander (R-TN)	Dianne Feinstein (D-CA)
Susan Collins (R-ME)	Dick Durbin (D-IL)
Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)	Jack Reed (D-RI)
Lindsey Graham (R-SC)	Jon Tester (D-MT)
Roy Blunt (R-MO)	Tom Udall (D-NM)
Jerry Moran (R-KS)	Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH)
John Hoeven (R-ND)	Jeff Merkley (D-OR)
John Boozman (R-AR)	Chris Coons (D-DE)
Shelly Moore Capito (R-WV)	Brian Schatz (D-HI)
James Lankford (R-OK)	Tammy Baldwin (D-WI)
Steve Daines (R-MT)	Chris Murphy (D-CT)
John Kennedy (R-LA)	Joe Manchin (D-WV)
Marco Rubio (R-FL)	Chris Van Hollen (D-MD)
Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MS)	



Armed Services

James Inhofe (R-OK), Chairman	Jack Reed, Ranking Member
Roger Wicker (R-MS)	Bill Nelson (D-FL)
Deb Fischer (R-NE)	Claire McCaskill D-MO)
Tom Cotton (R-AR)	Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH)
Mike Rounds (R-SD)	Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY)
Joni Ernst (R-IA)	Richard Blumenthal (D-CT)
Thom Tillis (R-NC)	Joe Donnelly (D-IN)
Dan Sullivan (R-AK)	Mazie Hirono (D-HI)
David Perdue (R-GA)	Tim Kaine (D-VA)
Ted Cruz (R-TX)	Angus King I-ME)
Lindsey Graham (R-SC)	Martin Heinrich (D-NM)
Ben Sasse (R-NE)	Elizabeth Warren (D-MA)
Tim Scott (R-SC)	Gary Peters (D-MI)

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Mike Crapo (R-ID), Chairman	Sherrod Brown (D-OH), Ranking Member
Richard Shelby (R-AL) (Appropriations)	Jack Reed (D-RI) (Armed Services)
Bob Corker (R-TN)	Robert Menendez (D-NJ) (Foreign Relations)
Pat Toomey (R-PA)	Jon Tester (D-MT)
Dean Heller (R-NV)	Mark Warner (D-VA)
Tim Scott (R-SC)	Elizabeth Warren (D-MA)
Ben Sasse (R-NE)	Heidi Heitkamp (D-ND)
Tom Cotton (R-AR)	Joe Donnelly (D-IN)
Mike Rounds (R-SD)	Brian Schatz (D-HI)
David Perdue (R-GA)	Chris Van Hollen (D-MD)
Thom Tillis (R-NC)	Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NV)
John Kennedy (R-LA)	Doug Jones (D-AL)
Jerry Moran (R-KS)	

Budget

Michael Enzi (R-WY), Chairman	Bernie Sanders (I-VT), Ranking Member
Chuck Grassley (R-IA) (Judiciary)	Patty Murray (D-WA) (HELP)
Mike Crapo (R-ID)	Ron Wyden (D-OR) (Finance)
Lindsey Graham (R-SC)	Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) (Agriculture)
Pat Toomey (R-PA)	Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI)
Ron Johnson (R-WI)	Mark Warner (D-VA)
Bob Corker (R-TN)	Jeff Merkley (D-OR)
David Perdue (R-GA)	Tim Kaine (D-VA)
Cory Gardner (R-CO)	Angus King (I-ME)
John Kennedy (R-LA)	Chris Van Hollen (D-MD)
John Boozman (R-AR)	Kamala Harris (D-CA)
Tom Cotton (R-AR)	

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

John Thune (R-SD), Chairman	Bill Nelson (D-FL), Ranking Member
Roger Wicker (R-MS)	Maria Cantwell (D-WA)
Roy Blunt (R-MO)	Amy Klobuchar (D-MN)
Ted Cruz (R-TX)	Richard Blumenthal (D-CT)
Deb Fischer (R-NE)	Brian Schatz (D-HI)
Jerry Moran (R-KS)	Ed Markey (D-MA)
Dan Sullivan (R-AK)	Tom Udall (D-NM)
Dean Heller (R-NV)	Gary Peters (D-MI)
James Inhofe (R-OK)	Tammy Baldwin (D-WI)
Mike Lee (R-UT)	Tammy Duckworth (D-IL)
Ron Johnson (R-WI)	Maggie Hassan (D-NH)
Shelly Moore Capito (R-WV)	Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NV)
Cory Gardner (R-CO)	Jon Tester (D-MT) (VA)
Todd Young (R-IN)	

Energy and Natural Resources

Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), Chairman	Maria Cantwell (D-WA), Ranking Member
John Barrasso (R-WY)	Ron Wyden (D-OR) (Finance)
James Risch (R-ID)	Bernie Sanders (I-VT)
Mike Lee (R-UT)	Debbie Stabenow (D-MI)
Jeff Flake (R-AZ)	Joe Manchin (D-WV)
Steve Daines (R-MT)	Martin Heinrich (D-NM)
Cory Gardner (R-CO)	Mazie Hirono (D-HI)
Lamar Alexander (R-TN)	Angus King (I-ME)
John Hoeven (R-ND)	Tammy Duckworth (D-IL)
Bill Cassidy (R-LA)	Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NV)
Rob Portman (R-OH)	Tina Smith (D-MN)
Shelly Moore Capito (R-WV)	

Environment and Public Works

John Barrasso (R-WY), Chairman	Tom Carper (D-DE), Ranking Member
James Inhofe (R-OK) (Term Limited)	Ben Cardin (D-MD)
Shelly Moore Capito (R-WV)	Bernie Sanders (I-VT)
John Boozman (R-AR)	Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI)
Roger Wicker (R-MS)	Jeff Merkley (D-OR)
Deb Fischer (R-NE)	Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY)
Jerry Moran (R-KS)	Cory Booker (D-NJ)
Mike Rounds (R-SD)	Ed Markey (D-MA)
Joni Ernst (R-IA)	Tammy Duckworth (D-IL)
Dan Sullivan (R-AK)	Chris Van Hollen (D-MD)
Richard Shelby (R-AL)	

Ethics

Johnny Isakson (R-GA), Chairman	Chris Coons (D-DE), Vice Chairman
Pat Roberts (R-KS)	Brian Schatz (D-HI)
James Risch (R-ID)	Jeanne Shaheen (D-H)

Finance

Orrin Hatch (R-UT), Chairman	Ron Wyden (D-OR), Ranking Member
Chuck Grassley (R-IA) (Judiciary)	Debbie Stabenow (D-MI)
Mike Crapo (R-ID)	Maria Cantwell (D-WA)
Pat Roberts (R-KS)	Bill Nelson (D-FL)
Michael Enzi (R-WY)	Robert Menendez (D-NJ)
John Cornyn (R-TX)	Tom Carper (D-DE)
John Thune (R-SD)	Ben Cardin (D-MD)
Richard Burr (R-NC)	Sherrod Brown (D-OH)
Johnny Isakson (R-GA)	Michael Bennet (D-CO)
Rob Portman (R-OH)	Robert Casey (D-PA)
Pat Toomey (R-PA)	Mark Warner (D-VA)
Dean Heller (R-NV)	Claire McCaskill (D-MO)
Tim Scott (R-SC)	Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI)
Bill Cassidy (R-LA)	

Foreign Relations

Bob Corker (R-TN), Chairman	Robert Menendez (D-NJ), Ranking Member			
James Risch (R-ID)	Ben Cardin (D-MD)			
Marco Rubio (R-FL)	Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH)			
Ron Johnson (R-WI)	Chris Coons (D-DE)			
Jeff Flake (R-AZ)	Tom Udall (D-NM)			
Cory Gardner (R-CO)	Chris Murphy (D-CT)			
Todd Young (R-IN)	Tim Kaine (D-VA)			
John Barrasso (R-WY)	Ed Markey (D-MA)			
Johnny Isakson (R-GA)	Jeff Merkley (D-OR)			
Rob Portman (R-OH)	Cory Booker (D-NJ)			
Rand Paul (R-KY)				

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Lamar Alexander (R-TN), Chairman	Patty Murray (D-WA), Ranking Member
Michael Enzi (R-WY) (Budget)	Bernie Sanders (I-VT)
Richard Burr (R-NC)	Robert Casey (D-PA)
Johnny Isakson (R-GA)	Michael Bennet (D-CO)
Rand Paul (R-KY)	Tammy Baldwin (D-WI)
Susan Collins (R-ME)	Chris Murphy (D-CT)
Bill Cassidy (R-LA)	Elizabeth Warren (D-MA)
Todd Young (R-IN)	Tim Kaine (D-VA)
Orrin Hatch (R-UT)	Maggie Hassan (D-NH)
Pat Roberts (R-KS)	Tina Smith (D-MN)
Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)	Doug Jones (D-AL)
Tim Scott (R-SC)	

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Ron Johnson (R-WI), Chairman	Claire McCaskill (D-MO), Ranking Member			
Rob Portman (R-OH)	Tom Carper (D-DE) (EPW)			
Rand Paul (R-KY)	Heidi Heitkamp (D-ND)			
James Lankford (R-OK)	Gary Peters (D-MI)			
Michael Enzi (R-WY)	Maggie Hassan (D-NH)			
John Hoeven (R-ND)	Kamala Harris (D-CA)			
Steve Daines (R-MT)	Doug Jones (D-AL)			
Jon Kyl (R-AZ)				

Indian Affairs

John Hoeven (R-ND), Chairman	Tom Udall (D-NM), Vice Chairman		
John Barrasso (R-WY) (EPW)	Maria Cantwell (D-WA) (ENR)		
Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) (ENR)	Jon Tester (D-MT) (VA)		
James Lankford (R-OK)	Brian Schatz (D-HI)		
Steve Daines (R-MT)	Heidi Heitkamp (D-ND)		
Mike Crapo (R-ID)	Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NV)		
Jerry Moran (R-KS)	Tina Smith (D-MN)		
Jon Kyl (R-AZ)			

Intelligence

Richard Burr (R-NC), Chairman	Mark Warner (D-VA), Vice Chairman
James Risch (R-ID)	Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) (Judiciary)
Marco Rubio (R-FL)	Ron Wyden (D-OR) (Finance)
Susan Collins (R-ME)	Martin Heinrich (D-NM)
Roy Blunt (R-MO)	Angus King (I-ME)
James Lankford (R-OK)	Joe Manchin (D-WV)
Tom Cotton (R-AR)	Kamala Harris (D-CA)
John Cornyn (R-TX)	Chuck Schumer (D-NY), Ex Officio
Mitch McConnell (R-KY), Ex Officio	Jack Reed (D-RI), Ex Officio
James Inhofe (R-OK), Ex Officio	

Judiciary

Chuck Grassley (R-IA), Chairman	Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), Ranking Member				
Orrin Hatch (R-UT) (Finance)	Patrick Leahy (D-VT) (Appropriations)				
Lindsey Graham (R-SC)	Dick Durbin (D-IL)				
John Cornyn (R-TX)	Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI)				
Mike Lee (R-UT)	Amy Klobuchar (D-MN)				
Ted Cruz (R-TX)	Chris Coons (D-DE)				
Ben Sasse (R-NE)	Richard Blumenthal (D-CT)				
Jeff Flake (R-AZ)	Mazie Hirono (D-HI)				
Mike Crapo (R-ID)	Cory Booker (D-NJ)				
Thom Tillis (R-NC)	Kamala Harris (D-CA)				
John Kennedy (R-LA)					

Rules and Administration

Roy Blunt (R-MO), Chairman	Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), Ranking Member				
Richard Shelby (R-AL) (Appropriations)	Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) (Judiciary)				
Mitch McConnell (R-KY) (Leadership)	Chuck Schumer (D-NY) (Leadership)				
Lamar Alexander (R-TN) (HELP)	Dick Durbin (D-IL) (Leadership)				
Pat Roberts (R-KS) (Agriculture)	Tom Udall (D-NM) (Indian Affairs)				
Ted Cruz (R-TX)	Mark Warner (D-VA) (Intelligence)				
Shelly Moore Capito (R-WV)	Patrick Leahy (D-VT) (Appropriations)				
Roger Wicker (R-MS)	Angus King (I-ME)				
Deb Fischer (R-NE)	Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NV)				
Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MS)					

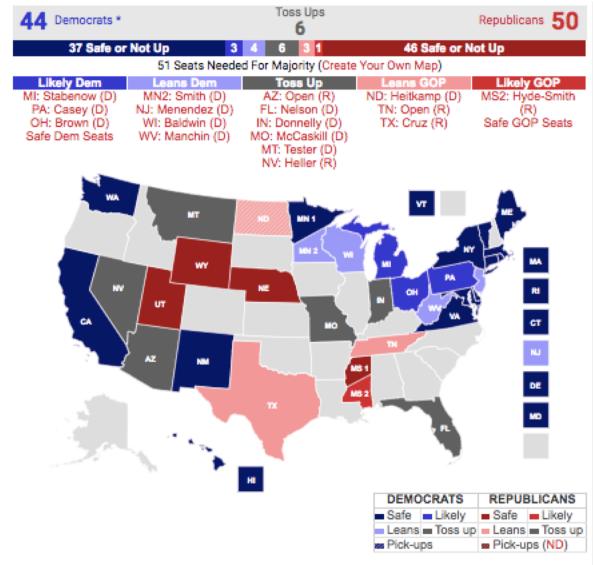
Small Business and Entrepreneurship

James Risch (R-ID), Chairman	Ben Cardin (D-MD), Ranking Member
Marco Rubio (R-FL)	Maria Cantwell (D-WA) (ENR)
Rand Paul (R-KY)	Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH)
Tim Scott (R-SC)	Heidi Heitkamp (D-ND)
Joni Ernst (R-IA)	Ed Markey (D-MA)
James Inhofe (R-OK)	Cory Booker (D-NJ)
Todd Young (R-IN)	Chris Coons (D-DE)
Michael Enzi (R-WY)	Mazie Hirono (D-HI)
Mike Rounds (R-SD)	Tammy Duckworth (D-IL)
John Kennedy (R-LA)	

Veterans' Affairs

Johnny Isakson (R-GA), Chairman	Jon Tester (D-MT), Ranking Member
Jerry Moran (R-KS)	Patty Murray (D-WA) (HELP)
John Boozman (R-AZ)	Bernie Sanders (I-VT) (Budget)
Dean Heller (R-NV)	Sherrod Brown (D-OH) (Banking)
Bill Cassidy (R-LA)	Richard Blumenthal (D-CT)
Mike Rounds (R-SD)	Mazie Hirono (D-HI)
Thom Tillis (R-NC)	Joe Manchin (D-WV)
Dan Sullivan (R-AK)	

Real Clear Politics



[PS]

* Sen. Bernie Sanders (D-VT) and Sen. Angus King (I-ME) currently caucus with the Democrats. Current Senate: 49* Democrats | 51 Republicans

Cook Political Report

DEMOCRATS | 26 HELD SEATS

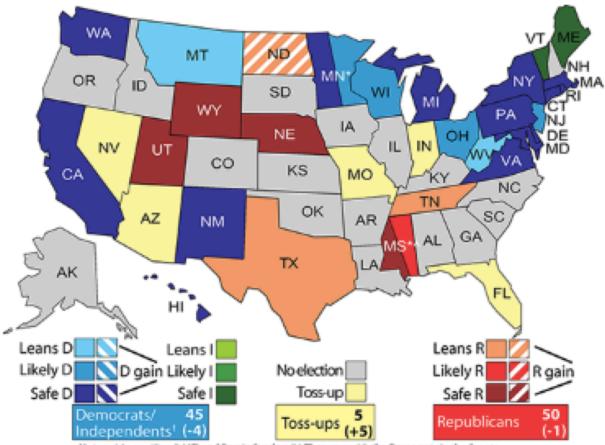
SOLID D	LIKELY D	LEAN D	TOSS UP	LEAN R	LIKELY R	SOLID R
CA-Feinstein CT-Murphy DE-Carper HI-Hirono MA-Warren MD-Cardin ME-King MN-Klobuchar	MI-Stabenow OH-Brown PA-Casey WI-Baldwin	MN-Smith NJ-Menéndez WV-Manchin	FL-Nelson IN-Donnelly MO-McCaskill MT-Tester ND-Heltkamp			
NM-Heinrich NY-Gillibrand RI-Whitehouse VA-Kaine VT-Sanders WA-Cantwell						

REPUBLICANS | 9 HELD SEATS

	SOLID D	LIKELY D	LEAN D	TOSS UP	LEAN R	LIKELY R	SOLID R
[[P]]				AZ-Open NV-Heller TN-Open	MS-Hyde-Smith		MS-Wicker NE-Fischer UT-Open
				TX-Cruz			WY-Barrasso

Sabato's Crystal Ball

Updated: Oct. 11, 2018



Notes: †Angus King (I-ME) and Bernie Sanders (I-VT) caucus with the Democrats in the Senate.

"In Nov. 2018, both Minnesota and Mississippi will hold special elections for their Class II Senate seats concurrently with the regularly-scheduled elections for their Class I Senate seats. On the map, the shading on the left side of each state represents the rating for the regular election and the right side represents the rating for the special election.

^Mississippi special rating applies to a likely runoff, which would be held Nov. 27.

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